WOMT Decision Summary 5/15/2007

The DSWG recommended increasing and maintaining OMR flows to greater than or equal to zero to try to stop further salvage of delta smelt until the temperatures in the south Delta reach 25 degrees centigrade. The cumulative catch from the 20 mm surveys so far this year (five, of eight, 20 mm surveys have been completed to date) is the lowest on record. The 20 mm catch this year is about 10 times lower than last year, even thought the adult smelt numbers this year were about the same as last year. The 20 mm distribution changed between the fourth and fifth surveys from none to about 50% in the central Delta, where delta smelt are more susceptible to entrainment at the Delta exports. The WOMT agencies discussed the recommendation and agreed to implement the following actions: 1) reduce combined SWP/CVP exports from the current 1,500 cfs to combined 1,200 cfs (850 cfs at the CVP and 350 cfs at the SWP); 2) open all six of the HORB culverts, begin removal of the HORB as soon as possible, evaluate the benefit to delta smelt of tying open agricultural barrier flap gates; 3) evaluate maintaining New Melones releases at 1,500 cfs for steelhead and Chinook emigration, and to increase OMR flows for delta smelt; 4) evaluate the benefit to delta smelt of opening and DCC on 5/21/07; 5) begin the process of convening the Tier 3 Science Panel to evaluate the actions if we exhaust EWA assets.

Please note new contact information

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